GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1113
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
RECOMMENDATIONS ON URBAN HEALTH
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the status of health in Urban areas is worse than the rural areas as reported in the 'Times of India' dated January 14, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Task Force to advise the National Rural Health Mission on Urban health was constituted in June, 2005;

(d) if so, the detailed recommendations made by the said Task Force; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Annexed.

(e) Government of India proposes to launch National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) to address health needs of urban poor.

Annexure

Salient Features of Proposed National Urban Health Mission "A Snapshot View"
Seeks to address health needs of urban population of the country, with focus on slum (listed & unlisted) populations and other disadvantaged vulnerable sections.

Proposes one Primary Level Health Facility (Urban Health Centre) per 50,000 population.

Proposes one First Referral Level Health Facility (Zonal Hospital) per 2,50,000 population, with provision for establishment of new born care units.

Envisages an active and socially committed slum level woman as "Link Volunteer" for a slum population of 1500-2000.

Mandates regular outreach health services, directed at the Slum Population and other urban based vulnerable groups to proactively reach out to and address the problems of low access to health services by these sections.

Supports training of Link Volunteers and Women's Health Committees to carry out community health promotion activities in slums and also enhance capacity of the community better demand and access health care services.

Encourages enhanced role of Urban Local Bodies in provisioning of health care services in urban areas in the light of 74th Constitutional Amendment.

Focuses on effective integration amongst Health and all Health related departments viz. Women & Child Development, Water & Sanitation, Urban Development/Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation, Municipal Affairs, Nutrition, Education etc. and programmes like National Aids Control Programme

Proposes defined Institutional mechanisms and management systems for ensuring accountability at national, State, District and sub-district levels.

Recommends decentralized city-specific planning, project formulation and implementation.

Encourages optimal exploitation of Public Private Partnership (PPP) for expanding health services and strengthening linkages between the service providers and the community, especially the vulnerable sections thereof.